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SAN DIEGO'S "PARTY KING" SENTENCED TO JAIL TIME

Property Owner Fails to Comply with Conditions of Probation in Code Enforcement Case

San Diego, CA (January 22, 1999) -- A San Diego man, who is known as the "Party King" for his commercial party operations, has been sentenced to 179 days in jail for failing to comply with his probation conditions.

In August 1998, 71-year-old Jim Morgan pleaded no contest to two counts of zoning violations at his 4931 Logan Avenue property in Lincoln Park. San Diego Municipal Court Judge Robert C. Coates placed Morgan on probation for three years on the condition that he perform 52 days of volunteer work under the supervision of a local community organization, the Knox Community Council, pay more than \$1,600 in investigative costs and fines, and remove all construction materials, debris, and vehicles related to his "Party King" leasing business from the property. Morgan failed to comply with his probation and was sentenced to jail.

Morgan's use of the property has been the subject of community concern for years. He has used this property, located in a largely residential area, as a storage yard for construction materials, debris, and his "Party King" bus fleet. In 1987, the area was re-zoned from commercial to residential. Prior to this change in the zoning laws, Morgan had started to develop the property as a commercial retail center. He completed development of the retail center. However, he used the center's parking lot as a storage yard, in violation of zoning laws. The community was concerned because there are mostly homes and schools in the area. Morgan does not live at the 4931 address.

"This case is an example of the community speaking out and being heard," City Attorney Casey Gwinn said. "The community was concerned about the condition of Mr. Morgan's property. The City of San Diego's Code Compliance inspectors and our Code Enforcement Unit listened to those concerns and took action." This case was brought by the City Attorney's Code Enforcement Unit.